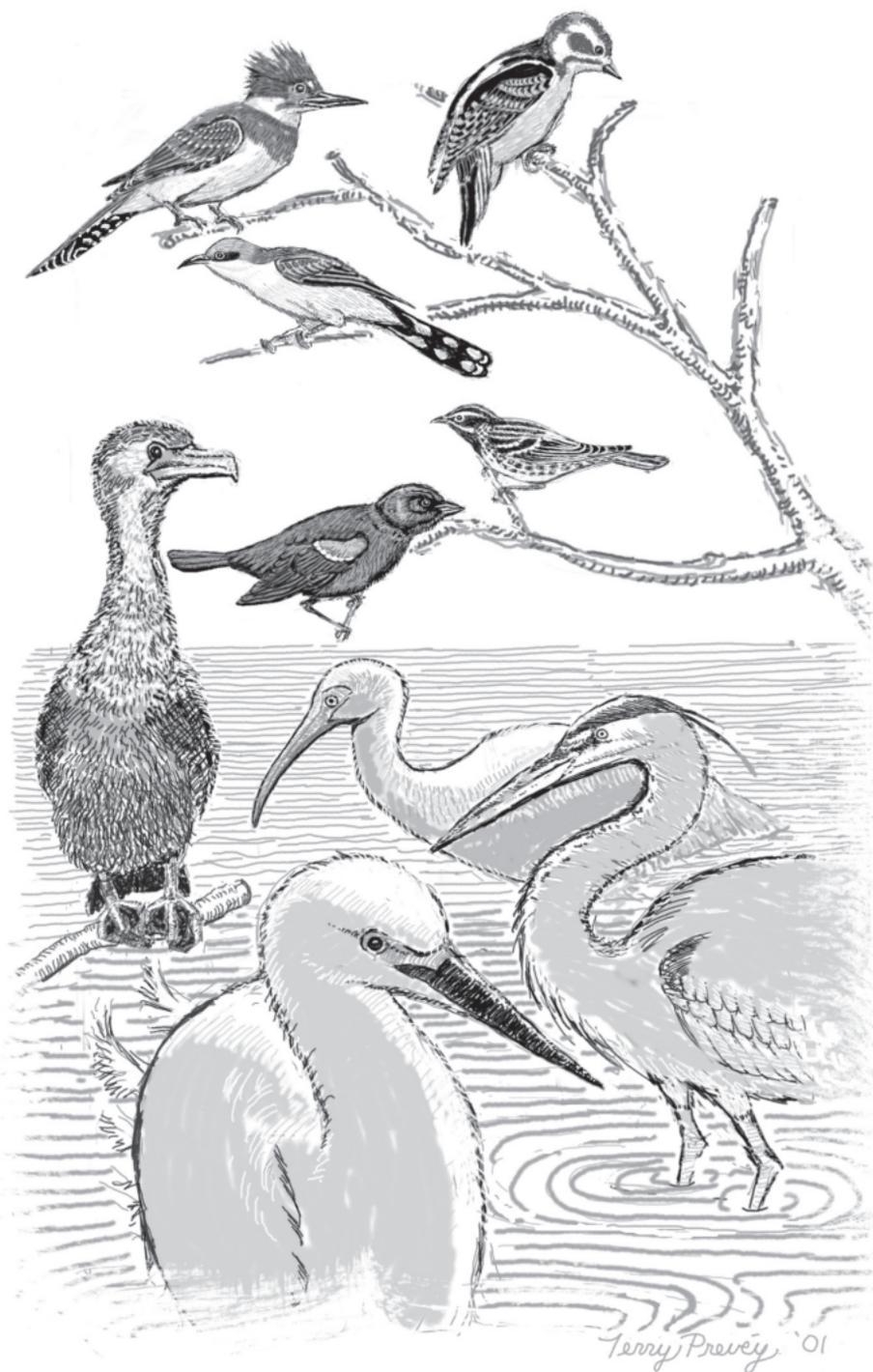


National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Everglades National Park
Florida



Bird Checklist



Introduction

Everglades National Park was established in 1947 to protect south Florida's subtropical wetlands, particularly the diverse and abundant birdlife. It's difficult to imagine that the number of birds we see here today is only a small fraction of what once existed. Due to the widespread slaughter of wading birds for their plumes in the early 1900s, and intense water management practices over the last 90 years, 90%-95% of the wading bird population has disappeared. Despite this tragic decline, birds continue to be one of the park's primary attractions.

This checklist is a complete list of birds observed in the park, a total of 366 species as of September 1, 2003. The key below indicates the seasonal occurrence and frequency of each species. The likelihood of observing a particular species is dependent upon being in the proper habitat during the correct season.

This list reflects the continuing growth of information about the birds of the park and follows earlier checklists compiled by Willard E. Dilley, William B. Robertson, Jr., Richard L. Cunningham, and John C. Ogden. As noted in the list, many birds in Everglades National Park are known from only a few records. Users of this checklist can contribute to future lists by carefully recording the details of their observations of less common species and reporting the information to park personnel.

Special thanks to the late Richard "Dick" Cunningham and Oron "Sonny" Bass for revising this current list. The park dedicates this new checklist to Dick Cunningham as a tribute to his many contributions to the NPS and the birding community.

Key

B Sp S F W

Breeding

B - Breeding status

+ - Breeds in the park

? - Breeding status unknown

Seasons

Sp - Spring (March 1 - May 31)

S - Summer (June 1 - July 31)

F - Fall (August 1 - November 15)

W - Winter (November 16 - April 30)

Abundance

c - Commonly observed (seen 50% or more of the time)

u - Uncommonly observed (seen less than 50% of the time)

r - Rarely observed (seen less than 25% of the time)

* - Fewer than 10 records

Breeding Status Spring Summer Fall Winter

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
Loons									
				Red-throated Loon					*
				Common Loon		r		r	r
Grebes									
				Pied-billed Grebe	+	c	u	c	c
				Horned Grebe		r		r	u
				Red-necked Grebe		*			*
				Eared Grebe					*
Shearwaters & Petrels									
				Greater Shearwater			*	*	
				Sooty Shearwater		*		*	*
				Audubon's Shearwater		*			
				Wilson's Storm-Petrel		*	*		
				Leach's Storm-Petrel		*			
Boobies & Gannets									
				Brown Booby		*			
				Northern Gannet		*		*	*
Pelicans									
				American White Pelican		c	r	c	c
				Brown Pelican	+	c	c	c	c
Cormorants									
				Double-crested Cormorant	+	c	c	c	c
				Great Cormorant					*
				Anhinga	+	c	c	c	c
Frigatebirds									
				Magnificent Frigatebird		u	u	u	u
Bitterns & Herons									
				American Bittern	?	u	r	u	c
				Least Bittern	+	u	u	u	u
				Great Blue Heron	+	c	c	c	c
				Great Blue Heron (white phase)	+	c	c	c	c
				Great Egret	+	c	c	c	c
				Snowy Egret	+	c	c	c	c
				Little Blue Heron	+	c	c	c	c
				Tricolored Heron	+	c	c	c	c
				Reddish Egret	+	u	u	u	u
				Cattle Egret	+	c	c	c	c
				Green Heron	+	c	c	c	c
				Black-crowned Night-Heron	+	c	c	c	c

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
				Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	+	u	u	u	u
Ibises & Spoonbills									
				White Ibis	+	c	c	c	c
				Scarlet Ibis (probably escapes)		r	r	r	r
				Glossy Ibis	+	u	u	u	u
				White-faced Ibis			*		
				Roseate Spoonbill	+	c	u	c	c
Storks									
				Wood Stork	+	u	r	u	u
Flamingos									
				Greater Flamingo		r	r	r	r
Geese & Ducks									
				Black-bellied Whistling-Duck				*	
				Fulvous Whistling-Duck		u	r	u	u
				Snow Goose				r	r
				Canada Goose					*
				Brant		r		r	r
				Wood Duck		r	r	r	r
				Gadwall				r	r
				Eurasian Wigeon		*			*
				American Wigeon		u	r	u	c
				American Black Duck					*
				Mallard		r			r
				Mottled Duck	+	c	c	c	c
				Blue-winged Teal		c	r	c	c
				Cinnamon Teal		*			*
				Northern Shoveler		c	r	c	c
				White-cheeked Pintail		r	r	r	r
				Northern Pintail		c		r	c
				Green-winged Teal		u		r	u
				Canvasback		r		r	r
				Redhead				r	r
				Ring-necked Duck		c		c	c
				Greater Scaup					*
				Lesser Scaup		c		c	c
				Common Eider					*
				Surf Scoter					*
				White-winged Scoter					*
				Black Scoter			*		*

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
				Long-tailed Duck					*
				Bufflehead		r			r
				Common Goldeneye					*
				Hooded Merganser		r		r	u
				Red-breasted Merganser		u	r	u	c
				Masked Duck				*	*
				Ruddy Duck		u		u	c
American Vultures									
				Black Vulture	+	c	c	c	c
				Turkey Vulture	+	c	c	c	c
Kites, Hawks, Eagles, & Falcons									
				Osprey	+	c	c	c	c
				Swallow-tailed Kite	+	c	c	r	
				White-tailed Kite	+	r	r	r	r
				Snail Kite	+	r	r	r	r
				Mississippi Kite		r		r	
				Bald Eagle	+	c	c	c	c
				Northern Harrier		u	r	u	c
				Sharp-shinned Hawk		u		u	u
				Cooper's Hawk		r		r	r
				Red-shoulder Hawk	+	c	c	c	c
				Broad-winged Hawk		u		u	u
				Short-tailed Hawk	+	u	r	u	u
				Swainson's Hawk		r		r	u
				Red-tailed Hawk	+	u	u	u	u
				Rough-legged Hawk		*		*	*
				Golden Eagle				*	*
				Crested Caracara		*	*		
				American Kestrel		c		c	c
				Merlin		u		u	u
				Peregrine Falcon		u		u	u
Turkeys									
				Wild Turkey	+	r	r	r	r
				Nothern Bobwhite	+	c	c	c	c
Rails, Gallinules & Coots									
				Yellow Rail		*		*	*
				Black Rail		r	r	r	r
				Clapper Rail	+	c	c	c	c
				King Rail	+	c	c	c	c

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
				Virginia Rail		r		r	r
				Sora		c		c	c
				Purple Gallinule	+	c	u	c	c
				Common Moorhen	+	c	c	c	c
				American Coot	+	c	r	c	c
Limpkins									
				Limpkin	+	u	u	u	u
Cranes									
				Sandhill Crane	+	u	u	u	u
Plovers									
				Black-bellied Plover		c	r	c	c
				American Golden-Plover				r	r
				Snowy Plover		*	*	*	*
				Wilson's Plover	+	c	c	c	u
				Semipalmated Plover		c	u	c	c
				Piping Plover		*		*	*
				Killdeer	+	c	u	c	c
Oystercatchers									
				American Oystercatcher		r	r	r	r
Stilts & Avocets									
				Black-necked Stilt	+	u	r	u	r
				American Avocet		c	u	c	c
Sandpipers & Phalaropes									
				Greater Yellowlegs		c	u	c	c
				Lesser Yellowlegs		c	u	c	c
				Solitary Sandpiper		u		u	r
				Willet	?	c	u	c	c
				Spotted Sandpiper		c		c	c
				Upland Sandpiper		*			*
				Whimbrel		u	r	u	u
				Long-billed Curlew		r	r	r	r
				Black-tailed Godwit		*			
				Hudsonian Godwit		*		*	
				Bar-tailed Godwit				*	
				Marbled Godwit		c	r	c	c
				Ruddy Turnstone		c	u	c	c
				Red Knot		u	r	u	u
				Sanderling		u		u	u
				Semipalmated Sandpiper		u		u	r

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
				Western Sandpiper		c	r	c	c
				Least Sandpiper		c	u	c	c
				White-rumped Sandpiper		r	r		
				Baird's Sandpiper				*	
				Pectoral Sandpiper		u	r	c	
				Sharp-tailed Sandpiper				*	
				Dunlin		c		c	c
				Curlew Sandpiper		*			*
				Stilt Sandpiper		u	r	u	r
				Buff-breasted Sandpiper				*	
				Ruff				*	
				Short-billed Dowitcher		c	u	c	c
				Long-billed Dowitcher		u	u	u	r
				Wilson's Snipe		u		u	u
				American Woodcock		r			r
				Wilson's Phalarope				*	
				Red-necked Phalarope		*			
Gulls, Terns & Skimmers									
				Pomarine Jaeger				*	
				Parasitic Jaeger		*			*
				Laughing Gull	+	c	c	c	c
				Franklin's Gull					*
				Bonaparte's Gull		u			u
				Ring-billed Gull		c	u	c	c
				Herring Gull		c	u	c	c
				Lesser Black-backed Gull		r		r	r
				Great Black-backed Gull		*		*	*
				Gull-billed Tern		u	u	u	u
				Caspian Tern		c	r	c	c
				Royal Tern		c	u	c	c
				Sandwich Tern		u	u	u	u
				Roseate Tern					r
				Common Tern		u		u	r
				Forster's Tern		c	u	c	c
				Least Tern	+	c	c	u	
				Bridled Tern				*	
				Sooty Tern		*	*	*	
				Black Tern		u	u	u	r
				Brown Noddy			*	*	

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
				Black Skimmer		c	c	c	c
Pigeons & Doves									
				Rock Dove		*	*	*	*
				White-crowned Pigeon	+	c	c	c	u
				Eurasian Collared -Dove		u	u	u	u
				White-winged Dove		r	r	r	r
				Zenaida Dove			*	*	*
				Mourning Dove	+	c	c	c	c
				Common Ground-Dove	+	u	u	u	u
				Key West Quail-Dove		*	*		*
Parakeets & Parrots									
				Budgerigar (escapes)			*		
				Monk Parakeet (escapes)		*			
				Yellow-chevroned Parakeet (escapes)		*			
Cuckoos & Anis									
				Black-billed Cuckoo				*	
				Yellow-billed Cuckoo	+	c	c	c	r
				Mangrove Cuckoo	+	u	u	u	r
				Smooth-billed Ani	+	u	u	u	u
				Groove-billed Ani		r		r	r
Owls									
				Barn Owl	+	u	u	u	u
				Eastern Screech-Owl	+	c	c	c	c
				Great Horned Owl	+	r	r	r	r
				Burrowing Owl		r	r	r	r
				Barred Owl	+	c	c	c	c
				Short-eared Owl		r		r	r
Goatsuckers									
				Lesser Nighthawk		r			r
				Common Nighthawk	+	c	c	c	r
				Antillean Nighthawk		*	*		
				Chuck-will's-widow		c	c	c	r
				Whip-poor-will		u		u	c
Swifts									
				Chimney Swift		u		r	
Hummingbirds									
				Ruby-throated Hummingbird		c	r	c	c
				Rufous Hummingbird				*	*

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
Kingfishers									
				Belted Kingfishers		c	r	c	c
Woodpeckers									
				Red-headed Woodpecker		*		*	*
				Red-bellied Woodpecker	+	c	c	c	c
				Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		u		u	c
				Downy Woodpecker	+	u	u	u	u
				Hairy Woodpecker	+	r	r	r	r
				Red-cockaded Woodpecker	extirpated				
				Northern Flicker	+	c	c	c	c
				Pileated Woodpecker	+	c	c	c	c
				Ivory-billed Woodpecker	extirpated				
Flycatchers									
				Eastern Wood-Pewee		u		u	r
				Acadian Flycatcher				*	
				Willow Flycatcher				*	*
				Least Flycatcher		u		u	r
				Eastern Phoebe		c		c	c
				Say's Phoebe					*
				Vermilion Flycatcher		r		r	r
				Great Crested Flycatcher	+	c	c	c	c
				Brown-crested Flycatcher		u		u	u
				Tropical Kingbird		*			*
				Western Kingbird		u		u	u
				Eastern Kingbird	+	c	c	c	r
				Gray Kingbird	+	c	c	c	r
				Scissor-tailed Flycatcher		r		r	r
				Fork-tailed Flycatcher			*	*	
Shrikes & Vireos									
				Loggerhead Shrike	+	u	u	u	u
				White-eyed Vireo	+	c	c	c	c
				Thick-billed Vireo					*
				Bell's Vireo		*			*
				Yellow-throated Vireo		u		u	u
				Blue-headed Vireo		u		u	u
				Philadelphia Vireo				*	
				Red-eyed Vireo		c		c	*
				Black-whiskered Vireo	+	c	c	c	*

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
Jays & Crows									
				Blue Jay	+	c	c	c	c
				American Crow	+	c	c	c	c
				Fish Crow		r			r
Larks									
				Horned Lark					*
Swallows									
				Purple Martin		c	c	c	
				Tree Swallow		c		c	c
				Bahama Swallow		*		*	
				Northern Rough-winged Swallow		u		u	r
				Bank Swallow			u	u	*
				Cliff Swallow		r	r	u	
				Cave Swallow				r	r
				Barn Swallow	+	c	c	c	r
Titmice									
				Tufted Titmouse		r	r	r	r
Nuthatches									
				Brown-headed Nuthatch	+	r	r	r	r
Wrens									
				Carolina Wren	+	c	c	c	c
				House Wren		c		c	c
				Sedge Wren		u		u	u
				Marsh Wren		u		u	u
Old World Warblers, Thrushes & their Allies									
				Ruby-crowned Kinglet		u		u	u
				Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		c		c	c
				Eastern Bluebird	+	u	u	u	u
				Mountain Bluebird					*
				Veery		u		u	
				Gray-cheeked Thrush		*		u	
				Swainson's Thrush		u		u	*
				Hermit Thrush		r		u	u
				Wood Thrush		*		r	*
				American Robin		u	*	u	u
				Gray Catbird		c		c	c
				Nothorn Mockingbird	+	c	c	c	c
				Bahama Mockingbird		*			
				Brown Thrasher		u	*	u	u

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
Starlings & Mynas									
				European Starling	+	u	u	u	u
				Common Myna (escapes)		*			
				Hill Myna (escapes)		*	*		*
Pipits									
				American Pipit				u	u
Waxwings									
				Cedar Waxwing		r-c		r-c	r-c
Wood Warblers									
				Blue-winged Warbler		r		r	r
				Golden-winged Warbler		r		r	
				Tennessee Warbler		u		u	*
				Orange-crowned Warbler		u		u	u
				Nashville Warbler		r		r	*
				Northern Parula		c	r	c	c
				Yellow Warbler	+	c	c	c	u
				Chestnut-sided Warbler		r		r	*
				Magnolia Warbler		u		u	r
				Cape May Warbler		u-c		u-c	r
				Black-throated Blue Warbler		c		c	r
				Yellow-rumped Warbler		u		u	c
				Black-throated Gray Warbler		r		r	r
				Black-throated Green Warbler		u		u	u
				Blackburnian Warbler		u		u	*
				Yellow-throated Warbler		c	u	c	c
				Pine Warbler	+	c	c	c	c
				Prairie Warbler	+	c	c	c	c
				Palm Warbler		c		c	c
				Bay-breasted Warbler		*		*	
				Blackpoll Warbler		c		r	
				Cerulean Warbler				*	
				Black-and-white Warbler		c	u	c	c
				American Redstart		c	u	c	c
				Prothonotary Warbler		u	*	u	*
				Worm-eating Warbler		u		u	r
				Swainson's Warbler		r		r	*
				Ovenbird		c		c	c
				Northern Waterthrush		c		c	c
				Louisiana Waterthrush		c	u	c	r

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
				Kentucky Warbler		r		r	*
				Connecticut Warbler		*			*
				Mourning Warbler				*	
				Common Yellowthroat	+	c	c	c	c
				Hooded Warbler		u		u	*
				Wilson's Warbler		r		r	r
				Canada Warbler				*	
				Yellow-breasted Chat		u		u	u
Tanagers & their Allies									
				Bananaquit		*			*
				Western Spindalis		*			*
				Summer Tanager		r		r	*
				Scarlet Tanager		r		r	*
				Western Tanager				*	
Emberizids									
				Yellow-faced Grassquit					*
				Black-faced Grassquit		*	*	*	
				Eastern Towhee	+	c	c	c	c
				Bachman's Sparrow		*		*	*
				Chipping Sparrow		u		u	u
				Clay-colored Sparrow		r		r	r
				Field Sparrow		u		u	u
				Vesper Sparrow		r		r	r
				Lark Sparrow		*		u	r
				Lark Bunting				*	
				Savannah Sparrow		c		c	c
				Grasshopper Sparrow		u		u	u
				LeConte's Sparrow		*			*
				Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow		r			r
				Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow		r			u
				Seaside Sparrow					r
				"Cape Sable" Seaside Sparrow	+	c	c	c	c
				Song Sparrow		*			r
				Lincoln's Sparrow		*			r
				Swamp Sparrow		c		c	c
				White-throated Sparrow		*		*	r
				White-crowned Sparrow				r	*
				Dark-eyed Junco		*		*	*
				Lapland Longspur				*	

Sp	S	F	W	Name	B	Sp	S	F	W
Cardinals, Saltators & Allies									
				Northern Cardinal	+	c	c	c	c
				Rose-breasted Grosbeak		u		u	r
				Black-headed Grosbeak				*	
				Blue Grosbeak		u		u	*
				Lazuli Bunting				*	
				Indigo Bunting		c		c	r
				Painted Bunting		c	*	c	u
				Dickcissel				*	*
Blackbirds									
				Bobolink		c		c	*
				Red-winged Blackbird	+	c	c	c	c
				Eastern Meadowlark	+	c	c	c	c
				Yellow-headed Blackbird		*		*	r
				Rusty Blackbird		*		*	*
				Brewer's blackbird		*			r
				Common Grackle	+	c	c	c	c
				Boat-tailed Grackle	+	c	c	c	c
				Shiny Cowbird		r	*		r
				Bronzed Cowbird				*	r
				Brown-headed Cowbird		u	r	u	r
				Orchard Oriole		u	*	u	
				Spot-breasted Oriole		*	*	*	
				Baltimore Oriole			c	c	r
				Bullock's Oriole			r	r	r
Finches & Old World Sparrows									
				Pine Siskin			r		r
				American Goldfinch		u-c		u-c	u-c
				House Sparrow	+	c	c	c	c

Habitats in the Park

Pinelands

The pine forest within Everglades National Park is the last remaining large stand of the once extensive Dade County slash pine forest of southeastern Florida. Good viewing areas include Pinelands Nature Trail and the area surrounding Long Pine Key campground.

Hardwood Hammocks

To walk into a hammock is to take a trip through a tropical forest. These dense groves of primarily West Indian hardwood trees provide cover as well as abundant food for birds. Hammocks can easily be explored by following the Gumbo Limbo Trail, Mahogany Hammock Trail, and the Bobcat Boardwalk.

Sawgrass

This community is the true Everglades, a shallow, slow-moving freshwater river characterized by sawgrass. During the dry season wading birds concentrate in deeper sections of the sloughs to feed. A variety of wading birds may be found in these areas. Good spots to catch the action include the Anhinga Trail, Shark Valley, and Nine Mile Pond.

Cypress

Cypress trees draped with Spanish moss are a common image of Florida. Most of the large cypress swamps are found north of Everglades National Park. However, a dwarf cypress forest can be viewed on the Pa-hay-okee Trail or along the main park road near Rock Reef Pass.

Mangrove Forest/Estuaries

Everglades National Park is home to the largest continuous mangrove forest in the United States. Mangrove islands, known as keys, provide important nesting sites for colonies of wading birds. Salt marsh mosquitoes supply wintering and migrating insect eating birds with an abundant food source. The dense mangroves also provide a summer breeding ground for many birds. To explore the mangrove forest and estuary, walk the West Lake, Bear Lake, or Snake Bight Trails near Flamingo. Canoe these tangled forests via waterways near both Everglades City and Flamingo. Be prepared for mosquitoes, particularly during the summer.

Beaches

Accessible only by boat, Everglades National Park's beaches provide the opportunity to view shorebirds, Magnificent Frigatebirds, pelicans, and various wading birds such as ibises, herons, and egrets.

Birdwatching Spots

Anhinga Trail

Wading birds, cormorants, Purple Gallinules, and nesting Anhingas may be found along the path anytime of the day during the winter (dry) season.

Eco Pond

Wading birds, American Coots, Osprey, White-crowned Pigeons, warblers, Red-shouldered Hawks, Anhingas, rails, Painted Buntings and other transients are best viewed here in the morning.

Gulf Coast Visitor Center and vicinity

Wading birds, cormorants, Osprey, Bald Eagles, pelicans, and shorebirds can be observed from the visitor center or by boat in the 10,000 Islands. Peregrine Falcons, Swallow-tailed Kites, Wood Storks, skimmers, and a variety of warblers make a seasonal appearance.

Mahogany Hammock and vicinity

Cape Sable Seaside Sparrows may be heard and seen early in the morning from the main park road during the spring. Bald Eagles and warblers are also active in the morning, while Barred Owls come out in the evening.

Mrazek Pond

Most of the year only a few ducks and wading birds, but for a few days during some winters, large numbers of wading birds, including Roseate Spoonbills and Wood Storks, move in to feast.

Nine Mile Pond

Snail Kites, wading birds, Wood Storks, Roseate Spoonbills, Limpkins, and White-crowned Pigeons make this spikerush community their home. The best times to find these birds is in the morning via canoe.

Paurotis Pond

Roseate Spoonbills and wading birds make appearances year-round, while in the early spring a Wood Stork rookery dominates the mangroves of this small pond.

Shark Valley Tram Road and vicinity

Wood Storks, wading birds, Snail Kites, and Anhingas may be found throughout the day along the tram road.

Snake Bight Trail

Warblers and Mangrove Cuckoos frequent the trail in the morning hours while wading birds, shorebirds, and flamingos sometimes feed near the boardwalk at high tide.

Notes & Observations

Everglades National Park 305-242-7700 phone
40001 State Road 9336 305-242-7711 facsimile
Homestead, FL 33034 www.nps.gov/ever

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA